

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Please cancel claims 1, 2 and 6, without prejudice, as follows:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (canceled)
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (previously presented)    A low-pressure mercury-vapor discharge lamp as claimed in claim 7, wherein the gold content lies in the range between  $8 \leq \text{Au} \leq 12$  at.%.
5. (canceled)
6. (canceled)
7. (previously presented)    A low-pressure mercury-vapor discharge lamp comprising a discharge vessel,  
  
          the discharge vessel enclosing a discharge space provided with a filling of mercury and an inert gas in a gastight manner,

the discharge vessel containing an amalgam which communicates with the discharge space,

and the low-pressure mercury-vapor discharge lamp comprising discharge means for maintaining an electric discharge in the discharge space,

the amalgam comprising a bismuth-lead compound having a lead content (Pb) in the range between  $35 \leq \text{Pb} \leq 60$  at.%, a bismuth content (Bi) in the range between  $40 \leq \text{Bi} \leq 65$  at.%, and a mercury content (Hg) in the range between  $0.05 \leq \text{Hg} \leq 0.75$  at.%,

the amalgam further comprising gold, the gold content (Au) lying in the range between  $0.1 \leq \text{Au} \leq 20$  at.%.

8. (previously presented) An amalgam for use in a low-pressure mercury-vapor discharge lamp as claimed in claim 7.

9. (previously presented) A low-pressure mercury-vapor discharge lamp comprising a discharge vessel,

the discharge vessel enclosing a discharge space provided with a filling of mercury and an inert gas in a gastight manner,

the discharge vessel containing an amalgam which communicates with the discharge space,

the low-pressure mercury-vapor discharge lamp  
comprising discharge means for maintaining an electric  
discharge in the discharge space,

the amalgam comprising a bismuth-lead compound having  
a lead content (Pb) in the range between  $35 \leq \text{Pb} \leq 60$   
at.%, a bismuth content (Bi) in the range between  $40 \leq \text{Bi}$   
 $\leq 65$  at.%, and a mercury content (Hg) in the range between  
 $0.05 \leq \text{Hg} \leq 1$  at.%, and

a temperature of the coldest spot of the discharge  
vessel during operation of the lamp being in the range  
between 65°C and 165°C.

10. (previously presented) The low-pressure mercury-vapor  
discharge lamp of claim 9 wherein the temperature of the  
coldest spot of the discharge vessel during operation of  
the lamp is in the range between 120°C and 165°C.

11. (previously presented) The low-pressure mercury-vapor  
discharge lamp of claim 9 wherein the amalgam has a  
mercury content (Hg) in the range between  $0.05 \leq \text{Hg} \leq 0.75$   
at.%.

12. (previously presented) A low-pressure mercury-vapor  
discharge lamp comprising a discharge vessel,

the discharge vessel enclosing a discharge space provided with a filling of mercury and an inert gas in a gastight manner,

the discharge vessel containing an amalgam which communicates with the discharge space,

the low-pressure mercury-vapor discharge lamp comprising discharge means for maintaining an electric discharge in the discharge space,

the amalgam comprising a bismuth-lead compound having a lead content (Pb) in the range between  $35 \leq \text{Pb} \leq 60$  at.%, a bismuth content (Bi) in the range between  $40 \leq \text{Bi} \leq 65$  at.%, and a mercury content (Hg) in the range between  $0.05 \leq \text{Hg} \leq 0.75$  at.%, and

the range of nominal operation of the lamp including operation with an amalgam temperature between 120°C and 165°C.

13. (previously presented) A low-pressure mercury-vapor discharge lamp comprising a discharge vessel,

the discharge vessel enclosing a discharge space provided with a filling of mercury and an inert gas in a gastight manner,

the discharge vessel containing an amalgam which communicates with the discharge space,

the low-pressure mercury-vapor discharge lamp comprising discharge means for maintaining an electric discharge in the discharge space,

the amalgam comprising a bismuth-lead compound having a lead content (Pb) in the range between  $35 \leq \text{Pb} \leq 60$  at.%, a bismuth content (Bi) in the range between  $40 \leq \text{Bi} \leq 65$  at.%, and a mercury content (Hg) in the range between  $0.05 \leq \text{Hg} \leq 1$  at.%, and

the lamp having a radiation output at an optimal mercury vapor pressure and being configured to operate at at least 80% of said radiation output over a range of amalgam temperatures between  $65^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $165^{\circ}\text{C}$ .